

# NEWS RELEASE



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United States Department of Agriculture  
Rural Development

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## **Urbana Rural Fire Department Receives Grant for Fire Truck**



Congressman Ike Skelton presented a Mock Check in the amount of \$27,000 to Jim Brown, President of the Urbana Rural Fire Department on Wednesday, July 30, 2003. Funds were used to purchase a late model pickup truck and manufactured slide-in unit consisting of a water tank, pump, and hose reel outfitted as a brush truck to be used as a natural cover fire-fighting vehicle. It will also be equipped with foam capability making it extremely useful for automobile/truck fires. The truck was purchased from Jon's Mid-America Apparatus, Rogersville MO.

"It is heartwarming to know federal tax dollars are being used to assist with providing essential fire protection needs in our rural towns and counties," said Gregory C. Branum, Missouri State Director for USDA Rural Development. "It is also great to see the local community come together with fund raisers and donations all working together for a common goal."

Branum said, "Rural Development funded 75% of the equipment purchased through the Community Facility Fire & Rescue Grant Program. The fire department funded the remaining 25%. This joint venture is an excellent example of cooperation by all partners working together for the good of the community."

Anyone seeking more information about USDA Rural Development or any of the programs, may visit the homepage at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo/> or by contacting Vickie V. Umfleet, Rural Development Specialist, 688 S. State Hwy B, Suite 400, Springfield MO 65802, by calling (417) 831-5246 ext 5 or contacting any of the Missouri USDA Rural Development offices.